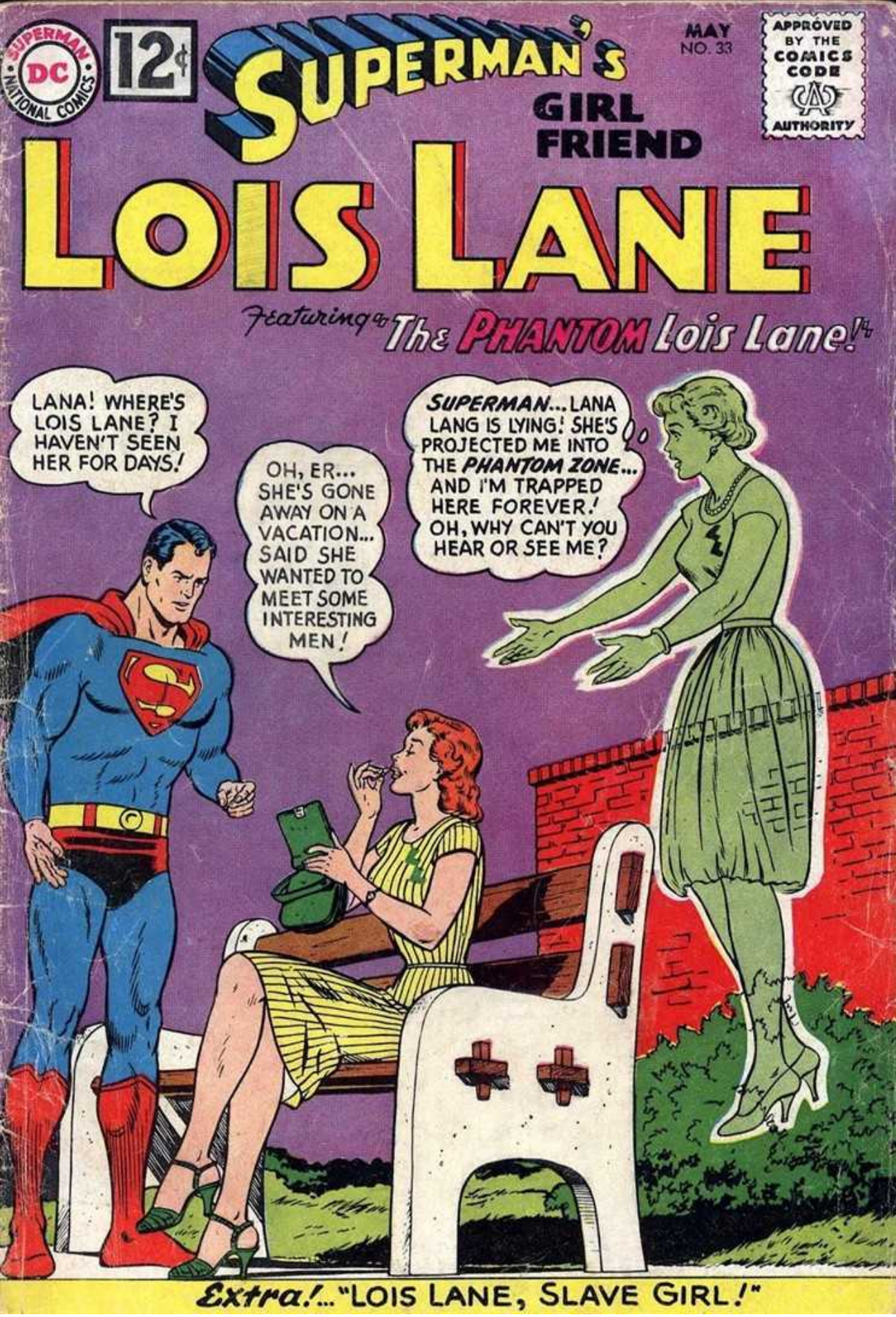
SUPERMAN-DC-NATIONAL COMICS
12¢
MAY
NO. 33
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND
LOIS LANE
Featuring "The PHANTOM Lois Lane!"
LANA! WHERE'S LOIS LANE? I HAVEN'T SEEN HER FOR DAYS!
OH, ER... SHE'S GONE AWAY ON A VACATION... SAID SHE WANTED TO MEET SOME INTERESTING MEN!
SUPERMAN... LANA LANG IS LYING! SHE'S PROJECTED ME INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE... AND I'M TRAPPED HERE FOREVER! OH, WHY CAN'T YOU HEAR OR SEE ME?
Extra!... "LOIS LANE, SLAVE GIRL!"

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SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND LOIS LANE

THOUGH LOVELY REPORTER LOIS LANE AND ATTRACTIVE TELEVISION NEWS-CASTER LANA LANG ARE RIVALS FOR THE AFFECTION OF MIGHTY **SUPERMAN**, THEY ARE CLOSE FRIENDS! BUT IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE FOR THE TWO GIRLS TO BE FRIENDS WHEN THEY BOTH HAPPEN TO LOVE THE SAME MAN? LOIS HAS GOOD REASON TO BELIEVE SHE'S MADE A FATAL ERROR IN JUDGING LANA'S "FRIENDSHIP" ON THE DAY LANA TRANSFORMS HER INTO... *The* PHANTOM LOIS LANE!

:SOB!: PLEASE FIND LOIS, **SUPERMAN**, AND BRING HER BACK! I'M AFRAID SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO HER! -:SOB!:

I'LL DO MY BEST, LANA! HOW LUCKY LOIS IS TO HAVE A TRUE FRIEND LIKE YOU!

T-TRUE FRIEND? SHE KNOWS WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME! IT WAS LANA WHO PROJECTED LORI AND ME INTO THE **PHANTOM ZONE**... THE **SNEAK!**

ONE DAY, AS LOIS LANE AND LANA LANG VISIT **SUPERMAN'S FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE**, AT HIS INVITATION...

THANKS FOR LETTING ME PHOTOGRAPH YOUR NEWEST SPACE TROPHIES, **SUPER-MAN!** IT'LL MAKE A GREAT PICTURE-ARTICLE FOR THE **DAILY PLANET!**

THESE FILMS WILL BE A HIT ON MY TV NEWS SHOW!

GLAD TO OBLIGE YOU, GIRLS!.. AND NOW I'VE A PRESENT FOR YOU!

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Printed in U.S.A.

BOTH OF YOU HAVE THE SAME "LL" INITIALS...SO SELECT WHICHEVER BROOCH YOU WANT!...THE BROOCHES TWINKLE BECAUSE THEY'RE MADE OF UNUSUAL METALS I FOUND IN OUTER SPACE!
I'LL TAKE THE BLUE ONE!
WHICH LEAVES ME THE ORANGE BROOCH!
AS THE GIRLS DON THE ORNAMENTS, SUPERMAN DROPS, THEN LIFTS SOMETHING...
OOPS! THE THIRD BROOCH FELL!
ANOTHER "LL"! I WONDER WHOM IT'S FOR?
EXCUSE ME FOR A WHILE, GIRLS! ACCORDING TO MY EMERGENCY MONITORING MACHINE, I MUST LEAVE TO HANDLE A PENTAGON EMERGENCY!
HURRY BACK!
AFTER THE MAN OF STEEL DEPARTS...
HMM! I'LL BET THAT THIRD BROOCH WITH THE INITIALS "LL" WAS FOR... LORI LEMARIS, THE MERMAID OF ATLANTIS WHOM SUPERMAN ONCE LOVED!
I'M GOING TO LOOK AROUND AT THE FORTRESS WONDERS, LANA!
SHORTLY, AS SUPERMAN RETURNS...
THAT DIDN'T TAKE LONG, DID IT? PUT ON THE FUR COATS THAT'LL PROTECT YOU FROM THE ARCTIC WEATHER, GIRLS, AND I'LL FLY YOU HOME!
AFTER A SWIFT RETURN JOURNEY TO METROPOLIS...
THERE HE GOES! WHAT A MAN! HE'S GOT EVERYTHING!
HE'S...TERRIFIC!...COME UP TO MY APARTMENT, LOIS, I'M PRODUCING A PLAY FOR MY DRAMA CLUB, AND I NEED YOUR HELP!

SOON, IN LANA'S APARTMENT...
THE GIRL WHO IS PLAYING THE ROMANTIC LEAD IN MY DRAMA CLUB'S PLAY IS HAVING TROUBLE WITH HER ROLE! YOU'VE GOT ACTING TALENT, LOIS! HOW WOULD YOU PLAY A WOMAN WHO'S SAYING FAREWELL... FOREVER... TO THE MAN SHE ONCE LOVED?
I'D PLAY IT LIKE THIS...

THIS IS GOODBYE! I'VE WASTED TOO MANY YEARS ON YOU! PERHAPS THE MAN I'VE MARRIED ISN'T OUTSTANDING LIKE YOU... HE'S... JUST AN ORDINARY CLERK... BUT HE'S GIVEN ME HIS LOVE! CLARENCE AND I ARE GOING FAR AWAY! YOU'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN! FORGET ME!

THAT WAS SO WONDERFUL, I RECORDED IT ON TAPE! YOUR FIERY, SOULFUL EMOTING WILL INSPIRE THE ACTRESS!
IS THERE ANY OTHER WAY I CAN HELP?
HA, HA! PERFECT! LOIS HAS FALLEN INTO MY TRAP, THE FOOL!

QUICKLY, LANA SNATCHES A WEAPON FROM HER PURSE, THEN PRESSES THE BLACK BUTTON ON IT.
YES! GET LOST! DISAPPEAR INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE... THE INVISIBLE DIMENSION INTO WHICH KRYPTONIAN CRIMINALS WERE SENTENCED BEFORE KRYPTON EXPLODED!

I KNOW YOU'RE HERE, LOIS, THOUGH I CAN'T SEE YOU! SURPRISED, AREN'T YOU? I STOLE THIS PHANTOM ZONE RAY-GUN WHILE ALONE IN SUPERMAN'S TROPHY ROOM!
?CHOKE! I... I'VE BECOME A... PHANTOM!!

IN THE EERIE PHANTOM ZONE...
THOUGH LANA'S MY RIVAL FOR SUPERMAN'S AFFECTIONS, I NEVER THOUGHT SHE'D GO THIS FAR! ULP! WH-WHO ARE THESE LEERING BEINGS? I CAN TELEPATHICALLY SENSE THEIR THOUGHTS!
I'M ...JAX-UR!

LIKE THE OTHER KRYPTONIAN CRIMINALS SENTENCED INTO THE ZONE, I HATE YOUR FRIEND SUPERMAN WHO IS OUR ENEMY! WELCOME, PHANTOM LOIS... HA, HA, HA!
DISREGARD THOSE JACKALS, LOIS!
AND WH-WHO ARE YOU?!

I AM MON-EL, SUPERMAN'S FRIEND! WHEN HE WAS A SUPERBOY, HE EXILED ME INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE SO I WOULDN'T DIE FROM AN INCURABLE AILMENT! HE HAS VOWED TO RETURN ME TO EARTH WHEN HE DISCOVERS ITS CURE!

MEANWHILE, IN LANA'S APARTMENT, AS SHE LOOKS INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE THROUGH THE RAY-GUN'S VIEWER...
SO YOU WANTED A SUPERMAN, EH, LOIS? WELL, THE PHANTOM ZONE IS LOADED WITH SUPERMEN... SCOUNDRELS ALL! WHY NOT PICK JAX-UR? HA, HA!

REMEMBER THE THIRD "LL" BROOCH SUPERMAN HELD, LOIS? IT MUST HAVE BEEN INTENDED FOR THE ONE GIRL HE'S STILL INTERESTED IN! I'LL GET RID OF HER, TOO! ALL COMPETITION ELIMINATED, IT'LL BE A CINCH FOR ME TO WIN SUPERMAN!
SHE'S AWFUL!

SOON, AT THE PLANET...
NEITHER PERRY NOR JIMMY SEE OR HEAR ME! AND CLARK'S AWAY ON ASSIGNMENT :CHOKE: I CAN'T GET WORD TO SUPERMAN FOR HELP! MY TELEPATHIC POWERS AS A PHANTOM ONLY WORK INSIDE THE ZONE, SO THAT I CAN COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER PHANTOMS! BUT I CAN'T CONTACT ANYONE OUTSIDE THE ZONE!

HOURS... DAYS... A WEEK... ARE NOW ALL THE SAME... TO ME! TIME... NO LONGER HAS ANY MEANING! AM... AM I DOOMED TO REMAIN HERE ...FOREVER?!!

AFTERWARD, AS LOIS ONCE AGAIN OBSERVES EARTHLY EVENTS...
HELLO, LANA! WHERE'S LOIS? I HAVEN'T SEEN HER FOR DAYS!
OH, ER... SHE'S GONE AWAY ON A VACATION... SAID SHE WANTED TO MEET SOME INTERESTING MEN!
DON'T BELIEVE HER! SHE'S LYING!
CHOKE!! IT'S NO USE... HE CAN'T HEAR ME!
I HOPE LOIS HAS A GOOD TIME! WELL, NOW I MUST RETURN TO MY FORTRESS! AFTERWARD, I'M GOING TO KEEP AN EYE ON SOME 100— MEGATON ATOMIC BOMB TESTS, TO MAKE SURE NOTHING GOES WRONG!
...THEN I'M GOING TO VISIT ATLANTIS!
SEE YOU LATER!
I KNOW WHY HE WANTS TO GO TO ATLANTIS! HE'S EAGER TO SEE THAT FISH-TAILED HUSSY, LORI THE MERMAID! HMM! I'LL FIX THAT FUGITIVE FROM A SARDINE CAN!
DAYS LATER, AS LANA IS ATTIRED IN A NEW-TYPE DIVING SUIT, ABLE TO WITHSTAND GREAT UNDERSEA WATER PRESSURE...
I'M CERTAIN ATLANTIS IS BELOW!
EVERYONE THINKS LANA IS DOING THIS FOR HER TV SHOW!--I WONDER...!
BUT, AS LANA NEARS THE SUNKEN CITY...
LANA LANG CALLING LORI! HELP!!
I HEAR YOUR MENTAL APPEAL!—I'M COMING, LANA!
UNEXPECTEDLY...
HA, HA! INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE YOU GO, LORI!
GASP!!-- LANA HAS CHANGED LORI INTO A PHANTOM, TOO!!

AND AS LANA RETURNS TO HER CABIN ON THE SHIP...
I KNOW YOU'RE WATCHING ME IN YOUR PHANTOM FORM, LORI! I HAD TO GET RID OF YOU, EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE HAPPILY MARRIED TO A MERMAN! I THINK SUPERMAN STILL LOVES YOU!
...IF EVER YOUR HUSBAND DIED, YOU MIGHT CHANGE YOUR MIND ABOUT NOT MARRYING SUPERMAN!...BUT NOW THAT CAN'T HAPPEN! AND WITH MY CHIEF RIVALS, YOU AND LOIS, ELIMINATED, SUPERMAN WILL SOON BE MINE! HA, HA, HA!
NEXT DAY, AT LANA'S APARTMENT...
NOW THAT THE MEGATON BOMB TESTS ARE OVER, LANA, I'M GOING TO ATLANTIS! I'VE STOPPED HERE FIRST, THOUGH, TO FIND OUT IF YOU'VE LEARNED ANY-THING NEW ABOUT LOIS!
YES, I HAVE!
WHAT'S SHE GOING TO SPRING NOW?!
I RECEIVED THIS TAPE AIRMAIL FROM LOIS! SHE ASKED ME TO PLAY IT FOR YOU!
WH-AAAT...?!
THIS IS...GOODBYE! I'VE WASTED TOO MANY YEARS ON YOU! PERHAPS THE MAN I'VE MARRIED ISN'T OUTSTANDING LIKE YOU...HE'S...JUST AN ORDINARY CLERK... BUT HE'S GIVEN ME HIS LOVE! CLARENCE AND I ARE GOING FAR AWAY! YOU'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN! FORGET ME!
;GASP!;--LANA LIED WHEN SHE TOLD ME SHE WAS RECORDING THAT TO HELP AN ACTRESS! SO THIS WAS HER SCHEME!
DON'T BE UPSET, LOIS! I'LL EXPOSE LANA TO SUPERMAN BY CONTACTING HIM WITH MY TELEPATHIC POWERS! HE'LL GET US OUT OF THE ZONE!

LORI CALLING SUPERMAN! LOIS AND I ARE TRAPPED IN THE PHANTOM ZONE! LANA HAS...
IT'S NO USE! OBVIOUSLY, HE DOESN'T "HEAR" YOUR THOUGHTS! YOUR TELEPATHY ISN'T GETTING THROUGH TO HIM!
THOSE POWERFUL MEGATON ATOMIC BOMB TESTS! SOMEHOW, THEY MUST HAVE CREATED INTRA-DIMENSIONAL DISTURBANCES WHICH PREVENT MY TELEPATHY FROM GETTING THROUGH TO MATERIAL BEINGS!
THEN... THERE'S NO HOPE FOR RESCUE! ;SOB!;
MEANWHILE...
I'M LATE FOR AN OPERA PERFORMANCE, SUPERMAN! PLEASE FLY ME THERE! WAIT! PERHAPS I'D LOOK MORE STRIKING WEARING THIS NECKLACE!
MOMENTS LATER...
;SOB!; PLEASE FIND LOIS, SUPERMAN, AND BRING HER BACK! I'M AFRAID SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO HER!
HOW LUCKY LOIS IS TO HAVE SUCH A TRUE FRIEND!
WHAT AN ACT LANA IS PUTTING ON... THE HYPOCRITE!
THEN AS LANA, WOMAN-LIKE, CHANGES HER MIND AND PUTS AWAY THE NECKLACE...
I THINK I'LL WEAR THE BROOCH, AFTER ALL! LET'S GO, SUPERMAN. SINCE LOIS INSISTS YOU FORGET HER, I GUESS IT'S BETTER THAT WAY!
I'M NOT FOOLED ANYMORE LANA!
I KNOW YOU GOT RID OF LOIS! I JUST NOTICED TWO FUR COATS IN YOUR CLOSET! IF LOIS HAD REALLY MARRIED A POOR CLERK, SHE WOULDN'T HAVE LEFT HER EXPENSIVE COAT HERE!
I SENT HER AND LORI INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE, WITH THIS RAY-GUN I STOLE FROM YOUR FORTRESS! AND THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE GOING, TOO... UNLESS YOU PROMISE TO MARRY ME!

PROMISE YOU'LL MARRY ME, AND I'LL PUT AWAY THIS RAY-GUN. I KNOW YOU'LL GO THROUGH WITH IT, FOR SUPERMAN NEVER BREAKS HIS WORD!
ALL RIGHT, LANA, YOU WIN! I PROMISE TO MARRY YOU!
BUT FIRST, A WEDDING PRESENT FOR YOU! GIVE ME YOUR BROOCH AND I'LL CHANGE ITS INITIALS FROM "LL" TO "LS", WHICH WILL BE YOUR NEW INITIALS AFTER WE'RE MARRIED!
"LANA SUPER-MAN"! I LIKE THAT! HERE'S MY BROOCH, DEAR!
:SOB!: LANA HAS T-TRIUMPHED!
AT ONCE, SUPERMAN CRUSHES THE BROOCH IN HIS POWERFUL GRASP...
GIVE ME THE RAY-GUN!
WH-WHAT AM I DOING WITH THIS? --TAKE IT!!
I CAN SEE THE PHANTOM LOIS AND PHANTOM LORI IN THE PHANTOM ZONE, THROUGH THE RAY-GUN'S VIEWER! WHEN I PRESS THE GUN'S WHITE BUTTON, THEY'LL MATERIALIZE BACK INTO OUR WORLD!
NEXT MOMENT...
THANKS FOR BRINGING US BACK, SUPERMAN! NOW I'M GOING TO GIVE LANA WHAT SHE DESERVES!
WAIT, LOIS! DON'T BLAME LANA! IT WASN'T HER FAULT!
WHEN LANA MADE ME PROMISE TO MARRY HER, UPON THREAT OF EXILING ME INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE, I KNEW THAT WAS CONTRARY TO HER REAL, FINE CHARACTER! EXAMINING HER EYES, I OBSERVED THE PUPILS WERE DILATED... AS THOUGH SHE HAD BEEN DRUGGED! THEN I REALIZED SOMETHING...!

I RECALLED THAT A CERTAIN BLUE SPACE METAL GREATLY MAGNIFIES THE NEGATIVE TRAITS OF PEOPLE IT CONTACTS, MAKING THEM EVIL! THROUGH AN ACCIDENTAL ERROR, I'D MADE LANA'S BROOCH FROM THIS METAL! ITS RADIATIONS CHANGED HER INTO A JEKYL-HIDE, BUT DIDN'T AFFECT ME BECAUSE OF MY INVULNERABILITY! — AS SOON AS I DESTROYED THE BROOCH, ITS EVIL INFLUENCE OVER LANA ENDED!
I SEE! WHENEVER LANA REMOVED THE BROOCH, SHE REVERTED TO HER TRUE CHARACTER... AND COULDN'T RECALL THE EVIL DEEDS SHE DID WHILE UNDER THE EFFECTS OF THE BLUE SPACE METAL'S RADIATIONS! THAT'S WHY SHE WAS GENUINELY WORRIED ABOUT ME AFTER TAKING OFF THE BROOCH AND PUTTING ON THE NECKLACE!
EXACTLY!
I PROMISED TO MARRY YOU, LANA... AND I ALWAYS KEEP MY WORD! LET'S VISIT A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE!
I RELEASE YOU FROM YOUR PROMISE, SUPERMAN! I WOULDN'T WANT A HUSBAND WHO WAS FORCED TO MARRY ME! I'M TERRIBLY SORRY ABOUT... EVERYTHING!
SWIFTLY, SUPERMAN RETURNS LORI TO ATLANTIS...
YOU GAVE BROOCHES TO LOIS AND LANA!... WAS THERE A THIRD BROOCH FOR ME?
I'M SORRY, LORI, BUT I DON'T GIVE JEWELRY TO MARRIED WOMEN... THE THIRD BROOCH I MADE IS FOR SOMEONE ELSE! BECAUSE OF YOUR TELEPATHIC POWERS, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO READ MY MIND AND SEE WHO I MEAN!
READER--CAN YOU GUESS?
OFF STREAKS SUPERMAN TO THE HOME OF LINDA LEE DANVERS, WHO IS SECRETLY HIS COUSIN SUPERGIRL...
DON'T WEAR IT PUBLICLY, LINDA! LOIS AND LANA SAW THIS IN MY FORTRESS, BUT MY FINGERS COVERED THE FINAL LETTER "D" ON THE BROOCH! IF THEY SAW YOU WEARING IT...
I GET IT! THEY MIGHT GUESS MY SECRET!
9
MEANWHILE, IN LANA'S APARTMENT...
RELAX, LOIS! I'LL NEVER SEND YOU INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE AGAIN, JUST BECAUSE I WANT TO MARRY SUPERMAN!
POSSIBLY BECAUSE I MAY SEND YOU THERE FIRST! - HA, HA! I'M ONLY JOKING!
I HOPE!
THE END

Dear Editor: I'm a new reader of the various "family" of SUPERMAN characters, and I'd just like to tell you that Lois Lane is my favorite character. Now that you have given DC fans four Giant Annuals devoted to Superman's best adventures, how about a LOIS LANE ANNUAL which will feature some of her most exciting exploits? Incidentally, I'm loyally in favor of Lois marrying SUPERMAN, and triumphing over her creepy rival, Lana Lang.

Erin Farrell, Wolcott, Conn.

(So popular is Lois Lane with our readers, we are now preparing the first GIANT LOIS LANE ANNUAL, which will be on sale early this summer. It will contain great Lois Lane stories of the past, plus a variety of surprise features. But we warn you in advance . . . a few of the stories will also involve Lana Lang. Watch this magazine for more news about the LOIS LANE ANNUAL.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: I liked the recent story, "The Magic Spectacles". But when Lois purchases the glasses, she remarks that she spent $60 for them, and comments that this sum "was almost a whole week's pay." Do you mean to say that the most famous girl reporter in America makes around $70 a week? If so, she is underpaid and Perry White is a tightwad, cheapskate, skinflint, miser of a boss.

Irvin Simner, Bronx, N. Y.

(Lois' salary is actually $100 a week, but inasmuch as she gets a hefty bonus each time she brings in a scoop, her annual income is quite a wad of dough. In addition, Lois Lane owns stock in the Daily Planet, from which she derives fat dividends. So don't put her down as one of Metropolis' "100 Neediest Cases". And we think you owe Perry White an apology.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: I enjoyed the recent Lois Lane story, "Superman's Secret Family", but one point puzzles me. In one scene the Superman robot, X-3, makes a super-pie for his robot wife, Mookie. And another scene shows the little boy robot licking on his giant lollipop. I didn't know that robots ate food. Error or not?

Richard Haywood, Shreveport, La.

(Both the pie and the lollipop were made with an OIL base, which robots require to lubricate their mechanical parts.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: I think I've found a goof in the story, "The Magic Glasses". According to the premise of the story, every time Lois looks into the glasses at someone, it reveals what animal he resembles. But when Lois looks at Superman rescuing a man, only Superman appeared as an animal. How come the man didn't appear as an animal, too? What happened?

Eugene Strebel, New Hyde Park, N. Y.

(We guess the editor wasn't wearing his glasses when he proof-read this scene.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: Does SUPERMAN have a steel heart as well as steel hands? If he liked Lois at all, he might show a little affection for her instead of acting like a cold fish? In other words, doesn't he have a spark of romance in his soul? Please give me a satisfactory answer.

Mimi Becker, Cleveland, Ohio

(SUPERMAN has a tremendous affection for both Lois and Lana, as has been demonstrated in numerous stories. The only reason he doesn't marry either of the girls is that he is fearful that his underworld enemies would use them as hostages, to stop his crime-fighting career, or kill them to get revenge on him. How can you accuse SUPERMAN of being a "cold fish"? His hopeless romance with Lori the Mermaid was one of our great masterpieces, as was his courtship of Lyla Lerrol, a beautiful girl from Krypton he fell in love with on one of his excursions into the past. And haven't you seen SUPERMAN shower affection on Lois in several of our "Imaginary Tales", in which he is shown being wedded to Lois?—Ed.)

* *

Dear Editor: In your November issue, in the story, "Lois Lane's Secret Identity", on the 6th page, 1st panel, you show Lois smashing a vase while she was wearing a sheath evening gown with white gloves. Then shortly after, on the same day, you show Lois, while picnicking with Superman, wearing a white blouse with green slacks and green high heels. How could Lois have possibly changed outfits without going home?

Stephen Faro, Brooklyn, N. Y.

(Who said she didn't go home?—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: Yesterday I bought the latest issue of LOIS LANE, No. 31. Once again, it was the usual excellent comic it always is! First of all, thanks for giving public recognition to your wonderful artist, Mr. Kurt Schaffenberger. Kurt is the most terrific artist of the Superman staff, and one of the greatest artists in comics. I notice that the circulation of LOIS LANE increased 57,000 per month over last year's sales, a higher increase than that made by any other DC magazine. This can only mean one thing—that the Lois Lane staff has done a "super" job during 1961. So—take a bow, Lois Lane staff.

Paul Seydor, Imperial, Pa.

(It was super-teamwork by all—artists, writers and production department, captained by a man who has remained quietly in the background for twenty years—Mr. Edwin M. Eisenberg—which is responsible for the success of this magazine. Also—we are grateful for the loyal support of our readers. Their comments, caustic, critical, but always honest, tell us if we're on the beam or not!—Ed.)

Send all comments on a postal card to LETTERS TO LOIS, National Periodical Publications, Inc., 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y. Due to the heavy volume of mail received, we regret that no communications can be individually answered.

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HOMER
LOOK AT HIM UP ON THAT HIGH WIRE. SUCH DARING!
WOW. SOME RISKY BUSINESS.
SOME COURAGE- DRIVING AROUND THE TRACK LIKE THAT!
SCREECH
WHAT CHANCES SOME FELLOWS TAKE ON THEIR JOB!
AND..
OPEN WIDER, JENNY. I WANT YOUR TEETH TO SHINE!

COMING..SUPER-ATTRACTIONS!

MAY ACTION COMICS ON SALE MAR. 29th
Featuring "THE MAN WHO EXPOSED SUPERMAN!"
A GREAT STORY WHICH DIGS DEEP INTO THE MAN of STEEL'S PAST WHEN HE WAS SUPERBOY and SUPERBABY!
Extra: A Sensational SUPERGIRL MYSTERY!

MAY Adventure COMICS ON SALE MAR. 29th
See SUPERBOY help PAUL REVERE... lead the BOSTON TEA PARTY, and sign the DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, when he crashes through the time-barrier into the Revolutionary War time era and becomes...
"BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S SUPER-REPORTER!"
Hilarious! A New BIZARRO STORY WHICH FEATURES BIZARRO-JIMMY OLSEN ON TRIAL FOR MURDERING BIZARRO-PERRY WHITE... ONLY TO BE DEFENDED BY A BIZARRO-PERRY MASON!

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND

LOIS LANE

GOSH, WHAT A SCOOP THIS WILL MAKE! I'M PHOTOGRAPHING A COUNTERFEITING PRESS WHILE IT'S PRINTING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF PHONY MONEY!

IN HER CAREER AS A SCOOP-HUNTING REPORTER, LOIS LANE HAS PLAYED MANY ROLES! BUT ONE DAY, WHILE CASING A TOWN FOR THE LEAD TO A BIG CRIME OPERATION, SHE STUMBLES ACROSS A CUNNING RACKET... AND ADOPTS A FRESH, NEW IMPERSONATION IN ORDER TO CRACK IT! BUT LITTLE DOES LOIS REALIZE THAT SHE IS RISKING EVERYTHING, INCLUDING HER LIFE, WHEN SHE BECOMES...

The CANDID CAMERA KID!

THIS DAME THINKS SHE'S GOING TO EXPOSE OUR COUNTERFEITING RACKET! LITTLE DOES SHE KNOW THAT SHE'S TAKEN HER **LAST** PICTURE!

WHAT IS THIS? LOIS LANE IN THE POLICE LINEUP? WHAT LAW HAS AMERICA'S TOP GIRL REPORTER BROKEN?

LOOK AT THESE GIRLS, MR. CRANE! WHICH ONE STOLE THIS INSTANT CAMERA FROM YOUR STORE?

THAT ONE WITH THE NECKLACE! I REMEMBER THAT SHE CARRIED HER PURSE ON HER RIGHT ARM, BECAUSE WHEN I ACCUSED HER OF SHOPLIFTING, SHE SLAPPED MY FACE WITH HER **LEFT** HAND!

YOU SKUNK! I HOPE YOUR BUSINESS GOES BANKRUPT!
DUCK, CRANE! SHE'S THROWING HER PURSE AT YOU!

WHEW! WHAT A TEMPER "LEFTY TERRY SHIRE" HAS! TAKE HER AWAY, BOYS! SHE'S THE SHOPLIFTER BEYOND ANY DOUBT!
WHAMMP!

SHORTLY...
THANKS, LOIS... FOR GETTING INTO THE LINEUP AND HELPING US TO IDENTIFY "LEFTY TERRY"!
DON'T MENTION IT, LIEUTENANT! YOU BOYS IN POLICE HEADQUARTERS HAVE DONE MANY FAVORS FOR ME! HMM... I WONDER WHAT A LADY THIEF CARRIES IN HER POCKETBOOK?

HERE'S AN ODD ITEM! A RAILROAD TICKET FROM METROPOLIS TO THE UPSTATE TOWN OF CYRUS! WHY WOULD A BIG CITY CROOK LIKE "LEFTY TERRY" GO TO A SMALL TOWN LIKE CYRUS UNLESS SHE WAS UP TO NO GOOD?
METROPOLIS TO CYRUS

LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF PERRY WHITE, DAILY PLANET EDITOR...
...SO I BOUGHT A TRAIN TICKET TO CYRUS AND A CAMERA EXACTLY LIKE THE ONE "LEFTY TERRY" STOLE! I FIGURED IF SHE STOLE THE THING, IT MIGHT BE SIGNIFICANT!
OKAY, LOIS! IF YOU FEEL SHE MAY BE INVOLVED IN OTHER RACKETS, PLAY YOUR HUNCH! GO TO CYRUS!

NEXT DAY, AS LOIS ARRIVES IN CYRUS...
NOW TO SNOOP AROUND AND CASE THE TOWN FOR POSSIBLE RACKETS! ANY ONE OF THESE RESPECTABLE SHOPS MIGHT BE THE FRONT FOR SOME ILLEGAL OPERATION!
YRUS

PRESENTLY, AS LOIS WALKS THROUGH TOWN...
HMM... I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS YET! MAYBE I'M ON A WILD-GOOSE CHASE!
HEY, JOE! AIN'T THAT...?
IT SURE LOOKS LIKE HER! SHE'S CARRYING A POLAROID CAMERA, ISN'T SHE? THE BOSS HAS BEEN EXPECTING HER ALL DAY!
THE CYRUS BLADE NEWSPAPER OFFICE
"LEFTY TERRY"! THE BOSS SAID YOU'D BE CUTE-LOOKING, BUT WE DIDN'T EXPECT ANYTHING THIS CUTE!
H-HUH...?
MOMENTS AFTER...
"LEFTY TERRY"! I SEE YOU BROUGHT THAT JIFFY CAMERA I TOLD YOU TO BUY!
SO THAT'S WHY TERRY LIFTED IT! SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO DO SOMETHING WITH THE INSTANT CAMERA HERE IN CYRUS!
NOW THAT I HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN FOR "LEFTY TERRY," I MUST BE SURE TO DO EVERYTHING WITH MY LEFT HAND!
JOE... GET TERRY A CUP OF WATER WHILE I SHOW HER AROUND!
ER... COULD I HAVE A DRINK, MR. GRAFF?
SHORTLY...
THANKS, JOE! NOW... UH... TELL ME ABOUT THINGS!
THINGS, SHE SAYS! HA! HA! SOME NAME FOR THE SMARTEST COUNTERFEITING OPERATION IN THE COUNTRY! YOU KNOW WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON HERE SINCE I BOUGHT THIS HICK PAPER LAST MONTH!
WHILE THE REGULAR NEWSPAPER PRESSES ARE WORKING, THEIR NOISE DROWNS OUT THE CLATTER OF OUR COUNTERFEIT MONEY PRESS!
HOLY CATS! I'VE STUMBLED ACROSS A COUNTERFEITING RING! THE NEWSPAPER IS THE FRONT BEHIND WHICH THE COUNTERFEITERS PRINT PHONY MONEY!

MEET ED SMITH, OUR ENGRAVER! ED CAN REPRODUCE ANYTHING ONTO A ZINC PLATE! WHEN HE FINISHES ENGRAVING GEORGE WASHINGTON'S FACE ON A DOLLAR, IT LOOKS SO MUCH LIKE THE REAL THING THAT EVEN MARTHA WASHINGTON COULDN'T SPOT THE DIFFERENCE! ED, SHOW "LEFTY" SOME SAMPLES!
OKAY, BOSS!

HERE ARE GRANT ON THE $50, FRANKLIN ON THE $100, McKINLEY ON THE $500, AND CLEVELAND ON THE $1,000 BILL! I DEFY ANYONE TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MY FAKE MONEY AND THE REAL STUFF!
ER... BUT HOW DO I FIT IN WITH THIS RACKET?

AS I TOLD YOU YESTERDAY OVER THE PHONE, I NEED YOU TO PASS THE STUFF! THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU TO BUY THE JIFFY CAMERA! YOU'LL BE "THE CANDID CAMERA KID" FOR THE CYRUS BLADE!

YOU'LL MAKE UP A QUESTION FOR THE DAY... THEN STOP FIVE PEOPLE IN THE STREET AND GET THEIR REACTION TO YOUR QUESTION! MEANWHILE, YOU TAKE THEIR PICTURE! BOTH THEIR ANSWERS AND THEIR SNAPSHOTS APPEAR IN YOUR COLUMN THE NEXT DAY!

BUT WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH PASSING COUNTERFEIT MONEY?
IT'S SIMPLE! TODAY YOU'LL GO FROM STORE TO STORE TO ASK YOUR QUESTION! AFTER EACH MERCHANT GIVES YOU HIS ANSWER, YOU TRICK HIM INTO CHANGING A $100 BILL! THEY'LL NEVER THINK YOU'RE PASSING COUNTERFEIT MONEY WHEN YOU'RE GIVING THEM PUBLICITY!

WAIT, TERRY! BEFORE YOU GO, I MUST TAKE YOUR PICTURE! WHEN WE PRINT YOUR COLUMN, WE MUST PRINT YOUR PHOTO WITH IT! WE'LL NEED AN ENGRAVING FOR THAT! WHEN YOU COME BACK, I'LL HAVE IT READY!
CLICK!

SIXTY SECONDS LATER...
HOW'LL THIS LOOK AT THE TOP OF YOUR COLUMN?
WONDERFUL!
I'D LIKE TO SEE HIS FACE WHEN I SHOW UP WITH THE POLICE AFTER I LEAVE HERE!

BUT WHEN LOIS GOES...
HA! HA! TERRY DOESN'T KNOW I GAVE HER GENUINE $100 BILLS! I COULDN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES WITH HER PASSING REAL COUNTERFEIT MONEY TILL I SEE HOW SHE HANDLES BIG BILLS! NOW I'LL FOLLOW HER TO SEE HOW SHE MAKES OUT!
DARN IT! NOW I CAN'T TIP OFF THE POLICE BECAUSE HE'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND ME!
SOON, AT A TOY SHOP...
OH-OH! HERE COMES GRAFF TO EAVESDROP ON MY ASSIGNMENT!
ER... I'M "THE CANDID CAMERA KID" FROM THE BLADE! I'M INTERVIEWING MERCHANTS TODAY, AND MY QUESTION IS... WHAT IS THE FASTEST SELLING ITEM IN YOUR STORE?
NOT
WELL, THESE SUPERMAN AND KRYPTO DOLLS WERE ALWAYS GREAT SELLERS! BUT EVER SINCE THE WORLD FOUND OUT ABOUT SUPERGIRL, THIS SUPERGIRL DOLL OUTSELLS ANYTHING IN THE STORE!
HOW INTRESTING! HOLD THAT POSE, PLEASE!
CLICK!
SHORTLY...
UMM... WHAT A LOVELY PICTURE YOU TAKE! BY THE WAY, I'LL TAKE THAT SUPERGIRL DOLL, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO CHANGE THIS $100!
$100? WHY, I CAN'T CHANGE SO LARGE A BILL! THERE'S A LOT OF COUNTERFEIT MONEY FLOATING AROUND!
HMM... HERE COMES THE TEST OF HER SKILL AS A PASSER!
HOW DARE YOU ACCUSE ME OF PASSING PHONY MONEY! I OUGHT TO SUE YOU FOR LIBEL! PICK UP THE PHONE! CALL THE POLICE! CALL THE F.B.I.! CALL MY EDITOR, MR. GRAFF! HE'LL IDENTIFY ME!
WHAT A PERFORMANCE! SHE'S GOT NERVES OF STEEL TO BLUFF THIS WAY WHEN SHE KNOWS THE DOUGH IS PHONY!
GOSH, MISS... I DIDN'T MEAN TO INSULT YOU! YOU CAN'T BLAME ME FOR BEING CAREFUL! BUT IF YOU WORK FOR THE BLADE, YOU MUST BE HONEST!
HA! HA! I STAGED THE BIG INDIGNATION ACT TO IMPRESS GRAFF! THE STOREKEEPER SHOULD KNOW HOW "HONEST" THE BLADE IS... OWNED BY COUNTERFEITERS AND STAFFED BY CROOKS!

SHORTLY, OUTSIDE...
TERRY, I SAW YOU IN OPERATION AND YOU WERE TERRIFIC! BUT I WAS TESTING YOU WITH REAL MONEY! NOW WE'LL GO BACK TO THE BLADE FOR SOME PHONY BILLS YOU CAN PASS AROUND!
THAT'S GREAT, MR. GRAFF! ONCE I GET SAMPLES OF THE COUNTERFEIT MONEY, I'LL EXPOSE THEIR RACKET!

THEN, BACK AT THE BLADE...
ED, THIS GAL IS SENSATIONAL! SHE CAN PASS MONEY FOR ME ANYTIME!
GREAT! I JUST FINISHED THE ENGRAVING OF HER PICTURE! I ALSO RAN OFF A PROOF OF HOW IT WOULD APPEAR AT THE TOP OF HER CANDID CAMERA COLUMN!

HEY, IT LOOKS SWELL, ED! BUT I'M ANXIOUS TO PUSH SOME QUEER MONEY! HOW ABOUT SENDING ME OUT WITH A FRESH SUPPLY?
RIGHT AWAY! I'M RUNNING OFF SOME $500 BILLS NOW! I'D LIKE YOUR OPINION OF THEM!
TERRY SHIRE THE CANDID CAMERA KID

INSTANTS LATER...
ED, THIS $500 BILL IS SHEER GENIUS! YOUR PRESIDENT McKINLEY PICTURE IS PERFECT!
WAIT! I JUST SPOTTED SOMETHING THAT'S NOT PERFECT! THIS JIFFY, INSTANT CAMERA! ITS TRIP IS ON THE RIGHT SIDE! BUT A REAL LEFTY WOULD BUY A SPECIAL LEFT-HANDED CAMERA!

THAT'S A MISTAKE ONLY A NORMAL RIGHT-HANDED PERSON WOULD MAKE!
YOU'RE RIGHT, BOSS! THIS GAL IS AS PHONY AS OUR DOUGH! SHE'S LOIS LANE OF THE DAILY PLANET! HERE'S HER PRESS CARD AND OTHER IDENTIFICATION!

WE WERE FOOLED BY HER RESEMBLANCE TO "LEFTY TERRY"!
NOW HOLD IT! LET'S NOT DO ANYTHING FOOLISH!
YOU DID THE FOOLISH THING, BABY... BY MASQUERADING AS TERRY SHIRE! LOCK HER UP IN THE ROOM, ED!

NEXT MOMENT...
OH! IT'S SLEEPING GAS! I-I FEEL ITS EFFECTS ALREADY!
WE WERE SMART TO SET UP A GAS TRAP IN THE COUNTERFEITING ROOM, ED, IN CASE WE WERE EVER RAIDED! GET THE GAS MASKS! WE'RE GOING IN AFTER SHE'S OVERCOME!
HHSSSSTTT!

BUT AS LOIS LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS...
ONLY ONE THING TO DO BEFORE I PASS OUT! GASP! I-I'LL MOVE THIS THING THERE! I ONLY HOPE I CAN FINISH BEFORE I KEEL OVER!

FIVE MINUTES LATER...
SHE'S OUT! NOW I'LL RUN OFF THE REST OF THOSE $500 BILLS SO GRAFF AND I CAN PASS 'EM!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF LOIS LANE PERMANENTLY AFTER ED AND I RETURN FROM METROPOLIS! SHE'LL REMAIN IN DREAMLAND IF WE LEAVE THE ROOM FILLED WITH GAS!
ZZZzzz.

LATER THAT NIGHT, NEAR THE HARNESS TRACK IN METROPOLIS...
YESSIR, ED! WITH LOIS LANE OUT OF THE WAY, WE'VE GOT IT MADE! WE'LL CASH IN OUR $500 BILLS AT THE TRACK'S $100 WINDOW! GET ONE TICKET AND $400 CHANGE FOR A PIECE OF PHONY PAPER!
HA! HA! AND WE MIGHT EVEN WIN A RACE!
TO RACEWAY

PRESENTLY...
HERE'S $500! GIVE ME ONE TICKET ON NUMBER FIVE!
A $500 BILL? ER... SURE! I MEAN... YES, SIR!
HA! HA! WE'LL PASS THOUSANDS IN PHONY BILLS TONIGHT!
$100 WIN

THEN, AS THE TROTTERS GO OFF..
AND HERE THEY COME TOWARD THE FINISH LINE! BUT WAIT! SOMETHING ELSE IS COMING UP FROM BEHIND! IS IT A BIRD, A PLANE, A HORSE? NO... IT'S SUPERMAN!
SUPERMAN? WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?

...AND SUPERMAN COMES IN FIRST! BUT HE'S LEAVING THE RACING STRIP!
OKAY, YOU TWO! WHAT DID YOU DO WITH LOIS LANE?
GRAFF! SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG! H-HE KNOWS ABOUT THAT SNOOPY REPORTER... BUT DON'T ADMIT ANYTHING!
THE $100 WINDOW CASHIER SPOTTED YOUR FAKE MONEY, PHONED THE TRACK OFFICIALS AND THEY CONTACTED JIMMY OLSEN, WHO WAS COVERING THE RACES FOR THE DAILY PLANET SPORTS DEPARTMENT! THEN OLSEN SIGNALLED ME WITH HIS SIGNAL WATCH! NOW TELL ME WHERE LOIS LANE IS OR I PROMISE YOU, YOU'LL LAND HARD!
Yiii.... GASP!... OKAY! WE'LL CONFESS EVERY-THING!
SHORTLY, IN CYRUS...
BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND, SUPERMAN! WHAT DID LOIS LANE DO THAT MADE THE CASHIER AT THE BETTING WINDOW SUSPICIOUS?
I'LL LET LOIS TELL YOU! AS SOON AS THE SLEEPING GAS RUSHES OUT, SHE'LL RECOVER!
TEN MINUTES LATER, AS LOIS TELLS HER STORY...
WELL, WHEN THE CROOKS TRAPPED ME IN HERE, I KNEW THEY INTENDED TO FINISH PRINTING THOSE $500 BILLS! SO, BEFORE I PASSED OUT, I TOOK THE CUT OF MY PICTURE AND SWITCHED IT WITH PRESIDENT McKINLEY'S ON THE COUNTERFEIT PLATE!
SINCE THE FIRST FEW BILLS THEY RAN OFF WERE PERFECT, THEY DIDN'T NOTICE THE REST THEY PRINTED LATER! SO WHEN GRAFF PASSED THE BILLS...
...YOU KNEW WHO-EVER RECEIVED THE MONEY WOULD SEE LOIS LANE'S PICTURE ON THE BILL AND WOULD SUMMON ME! SMART GIRL, LOIS! YOU'RE WORTH YOUR WEIGHT IN REAL $500 BILLS!
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
500
FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS
The End

JUST ONE SECOND!

THAT'S THE TIME IT TAKES FOR...

The RHEA (FASTEST BIRD ON TWO FEET) TO RUN 60 FEET!

The CHEETAH (SPEED KING OF THE ANIMAL WORLD) TO DASH 100 FEET!

The DUCK HAWK (FASTEST FLYING BIRD) TO WHIZ 260 FEET!

A LIGHTNING BOLT TO TRAVEL 186,234 MILES!

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Is it a BIRD?
Is it a PLANE?
Is it MR. MXYZPTLK?!

NO...

It's SUPERBABY...
COMMITTING SUPER-MISCHIEF
MR. MXYZPTLK
NEVER DREAMED OF!

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WHAT I'D GIVE TO BE OUT OF THIS JAIL!
POOR MAN! HIM LOCKED UP LIKE BIRD IN A CAGE! ME FREE HIM!
CLARK! I WARNED YOU TO STAY OUT OF TROUBLE. NOW EVERYONE IN SMALLVILLE WILL KNOW YOU HAVE SUPER-POWERS!
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SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

ON SALE EVERYWHERE... APRIL 3rd

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND LOIS LANE

WHAT AM I OFFERED FOR THIS BEAUTIFUL FEMALE SLAVE? SHE CAN PLAY THE LYRE AND WEAVE CLOTH!
EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE, OWING TO SOME BIZARRE TWIST OF FATE, DAILY PLANET REPORTER, LOIS LANE FINDS HERSELF CATAPULTED INTO THE PAST! AND IN HER AMAZING VISITS TO ANCIENT TIMES, SHE HAS PLAYED MANY ROLES...AS A CAVE WOMAN, AN AMAZON, EVEN ROBIN HOOD'S GIRL FRIEND! BUT BRACE YOURSELF FOR A REAL SHOCKER AS, IN LOIS' LATEST JOURNEY INTO THE PAST, AMERICA'S FAVORITE HEROINE BECOMES...
LOIS LANE, SLAVE GIRL!
200 SESTERCES!
300 SESTERCES!
I'LL MAKE IT 400 SESTERCES!
PLAY THE LYRE? GOLLY... I CAN'T EVEN PLAY THE HARMONICA, AND I CAN'T EVEN THREAD A NEEDLE, LET ALONE WEAVE CLOTH! THESE ROMANS ARE BOUND TO DISCOVER I'M NOT A REAL SLAVE GIRL!

ONE AFTERNOON, AT METROPOLIS COURT HOUSE, AS THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY ADDRESSES THE JURY...
THESE SCOUNDRELS TOOK LARGE FEES FROM THOSE TRUSTING GIRLS, PROMISING THEM JOBS AS MODELS! BUT TOMORROW THE REPORTER, LOIS LANE, WILL REVEAL WHAT SHE LEARNED ABOUT THEIR RACKET WHILE POSING AS A MODEL HERSELF!
VERY WELL! COURT ADJOURNED TILL 10 A.M. TOMORROW!

PSST... JOE! IF LOIS LANE TESTIFIES AGAINST US, WE'RE SUNK!
DON'T WORRY! SHE WON'T SHOW UP IN COURT! I'VE ARRANGED EVERYTHING WITH THE GANG! THEY HIRED THE "PROFESSOR" TO TAKE CARE OF HER WITH A TIME BOMB!

NEXT MORNING, AT THE COURT HOUSE...
"PROFESSOR"! LOIS LANE IS HERE, DRESSED IN THE ROMAN COSTUME SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO MODEL FOR THAT FAKE ADVERTISING ACCOUNT! I THOUGHT YOU WERE GETTING RID OF HER WITH A TIME BOMB!
SHHH! I SLIPPED THE BOMB INTO HER PURSE AT THE DAILY PLANET AN HOUR AGO! IT'LL GO OFF ANY MINUTE!
SUDDENLY...
YIIIIII!
BAARROOOMM
NEXT MOMENT...
}GASP!: SHE'S DISAPPEARED! NOT EVEN A SHRED OF CLOTHING!
SURPRISED, EH? WELL, I FIGURED ANY FOOL COULD MAKE A TIME BOMB THAT WOULD BLOW HER TO KINGDOM COME! BUT WITH MY SCIENTIFIC GENIUS, I CREATED A REAL "TIME" BOMB!
WHEN IT EXPLODED, IT SENT HER INTO THE PAST! NOW SHE CAN'T TESTIFY AT THE TRIAL, WE CAN'T BE ACCUSED OF MURDER, THE BOSS WILL GO FREE AND NOBODY WILL KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, INCLUDING LOIS LANE WHEN SHE RETURNS TO THE PRESENT!
MEANWHILE...
... I-I REMEMBER AN EXPLOSION... THEN A SENSATION AS IF I WERE FLYING THROUGH SPACE! }GASP!: THE COURT HOUSE IS GONE! AND I SEEM TO BE IN ANCIENT ROME!
COME, CITIZENS OF ROME! HOW MUCH AM I BID FOR THIS SLAVE? HE IS AS STRONG AS AN OX!
FIFTY SESTERCES!
EIGHTY SESTERCES!
GOOD GRIEF! I CAN UNDERSTAND PRACTICALLY EVERY WORD THEY'RE SAYING BECAUSE LATIN WAS ONE OF MY BEST SUBJECTS IN COLLEGE! T-THIS IS A SLAVE AUCTION!
?
2

WAIT! WHY IS THIS FEMALE SLAVE NOT OFFERED FOR BIDS? WHY IS SHE NOT CHAINED LIKE THE REST?
FORGIVE ME, CRASSUS! SHE MUST HAVE SLIPPED OUT OF HER SHACKLES! BUT AUCTIONED OFF SHE SHALL BE! COME HERE, WENCH! WITH YOUR GOOD LOOKS, YOU SHOULD BRING A FANCY PRICE!
SHORTLY...
200 SESTERCES!
AND I SAY 400 SESTERCES! 100 MORE THAN ANY FEMALE SLAVE IS WORTH!
BY JUPITER! LEAVE IT TO THAT SLY FOX, CRASSUS, TO PICK THE BEST GRAPE ON THE VINE!
PRESENTLY...
WHAT ILL LUCK WE HAVE! CRASSUS IS REPUTED TO BE THE CRUELEST SLAVE-OWNER IN ALL ROME!
HMM... MY LUCK IS EVEN WORSE! I BELONG IN THE 20TH CENTURY! YET HERE I AM IN THE PAST AS A SLAVE, NOT EVEN KNOWING HOW I EVER GOT HERE, OR HOW I'LL EVER GET BACK TO THE PRESENT!
HOURS LATER, AT CRASSUS' CASTLE...
CHAIN THE DOGS UP IN THE SLAVE COMPOUND TILL DUTIES ARE ASSIGNED TO THEM!
CRASSUS IS A TERRIBLE TASK-MASTER! BUT WE MUST NOT DESPAIR! ONE DAY PETRONIUS WILL SAVE US! HE WILL COME DOWN FROM THE HILLS AND LIBERATE ALL OF US!
WHO IS PETRONIUS?
A GLADIATOR WHO ESCAPED FROM THE ARENA AND RISKS HIS LIFE RESCUING SLAVES! YOU WILL SWOON WHEN YOU SEE HIM, LASS! PETRONIUS IS AS HANDSOME AS A GOD AND AS STRONG AS HERCULES!
HMM... HE SOUNDS LIKE SUPERMAN!
"ONCE, WHEN HE WAS PASSING IN HIS CHARIOT, PETRONIUS SAW A WILD BULL MENACING A CROWD. WITH ONE MIGHTY BLOW OF HIS FIST, HE FLATTENED THE BERSERK BEAST!"

"AYE! THERE ARE MANY TALES OF HIS STRENGTH! WITH MY OWN EYES I SAW PETRONIUS STORMING A FORTRESS TO FREE SLAVES IMPRISONED WITHIN! WITH ONE HAND HE RIPPED THE HUGE DOOR OF THE FORT RIGHT OFF ITS HINGES!"

BUT THE TALES ABOUT PETRONIUS COME TO AN ABRUPT END AS THE SLAVES ARE GIVEN TASKS! LOIS IS ASSIGNED TO THE BATHS...
HURRY WITH THOSE VATS OF GOATS' MILK! CRASSUS' MOTHER AND SISTERS NEED FRESH MILK FOR THEIR BATHS!
GASP!!... TELL ME! WHO IS THAT GIRL WALKING AROUND AS IF SHE OWNED THE PLACE? IS SHE THE WIFE OF CRASSUS?

"HA! SHE WISHES SHE WERE HIS WIFE! THAT'S JULIA, A SLAVE LIKE OURSELVES! SHE IS CRASSUS' FAVORITE! SHE DANCES AT ALL HIS BANQUETS! I THINK SHE'D LIKE TO MARRY HIM!
UGH! A CRUEL GROOM LIKE HIM SHE CAN HAVE! JULIA LOOKS LIKE LANA LANG BUT IT'S A CINCH WE'LL NEVER BE RIVALS OVER CRASSUS!

NEXT MORNING, AS LOIS APPROACHES A DESERTED BUILDING...
GET AWAY FROM THAT TEMPLE! DON'T YOU KNOW NOBODY IS PERMITTED INSIDE EXCEPT CRASSUS, WHO COMES HERE TO PRAY TO THE GODS FOR WEALTH AND POWER?
OH, IT'S YOU! THE SLAVE WHO WANTS TO MARRY THE TYRANT!

WHY NOT? CRASSUS IS THE RICHEST NOBLE IN ROME! SOME DAY HE WILL MARRY ME! THEN I SHALL APPOINT YOU MY PERSONAL SLAVE! OR PERHAPS YOU'RE SO INTERESTED IN CRASSUS BECAUSE YOU HAVE DESIGNS ON HIM YOURSELF?
NEVER! I'D SOONER THROW MYSELF TO THE LIONS!

LATER, AS JULIA ASSIGNS LOIS SOME HARD TASKS...
JULIA! ARE YOU MAD, GIVING THAT PRETTY GIRL SUCH HARD LABOR? ASSIGN HER EASIER WORK AT ONCE!
YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND, NOBLE CRASSUS!
WHAT DO YOU KNOW? HE HAS HIS EYE ON ME!"

BUT WHEN CRASSUS LEAVES...
SURE, I'LL GIVE YOU A NICE, EASY TASK! POLISH THOSE CHARIOTS WITH THIS BRUSH! GET EVERY DROP OF MUD OFF THEM!
WHY, YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING, JEALOUS CAT! BECAUSE CRASSUS NOTICED ME, YOU'RE MAKING SURE I'LL BECOME NO COMPETITION BY WORKING ME TO DEATH!
THAT NIGHT, WHEN LOIS FINISHES HER TASK...
ALL RIGHT! YOU CAN RETURN TO THE SLAVE COMPOUND! WALK CAREFULLY OR THE GUESTS COMING TO CRASSUS' BANQUET WILL RUN YOU DOWN WITH THEIR CHARIOTS!
HOW HEARTLESS THESE ROMANS ARE! CRASSUS CELEBRATES WHILE HIS SLAVES STARVE!
SHORTLY...
LOOK AT HIS GUESTS FEASTING, NOT CARING TWO PINS ABOUT THE HUMAN BEINGS THEY TYRANNIZE! THANK GOODNESS, THERE'S A HERO, PETRONIUS, WHO, LIKE SUPERMAN IN MODERN TIMES, FIGHTS TO HELP THE POOR AND OPPRESSED!
AND AFTER LOIS GOES AWAY...
ATTENTION! YOUR HOST, NOBLE CRASSUS, WISHES TO PRAY TO THE GODS IN HIS PRIVATE TEMPLE! EVERYBODY WILL LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!
BAH! CRASSUS AND HIS GOD HAVE SPOILED OUR GAYEST PARTIES!
BONNG!
NEVERTHELESS, AS THE GRUMBLING COMPANY DEPARTS...
DID YOU EVER SEE A MAN WORSHIP THE GODS SO MUCH? THEY SAY NOBODY ELSE HAS EVER BEEN INSIDE THAT TEMPLE! YET CRASSUS REMAINS IN SECLUSION SOMETIMES FOR DAYS, JUST PRAYING!
MAYBE THAT'S WHY HE'S SO RICH! THE GODS REWARD HIS DEVOTION!
LATER, AS DAWN BREAKS...
HALT! WHO APPROACHES THE SLAVE COMPOUND?
ALAS, GOOD SOLDIER! 'TIS BUT A POOR BEGGAR SEEKING ALMS!
BEGONE, ROGUE! YOU'LL GET NOTHING HERE!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!
OWWWW!
OHHHHH!
CLANK!
MOMENTS AFTER...
EVERYBODY! WAKE UP! MY MEN ARE WAITING OUTSIDE WITH CHARIOTS! JOIN THEM AND THEY'LL TAKE YOU TO FREEDOM!
IT'S PETRONIUS! WE'RE SAVED!
SO THAT'S PETRONIUS! WHAT A HANDSOME MAN! WHAT MUSCLES! HE REMINDS ME OF SUPERMAN!
SOON...
PETRONIUS! CRASSUS' GUARDS HAVE RELEASED HUNTING LIONS! THEY'LL EASILY OVERTAKE OUR CHARIOT!
FEAR NOT, LASS! I CAME PREPARED! THE BEASTS WILL PURSUE THESE PIECES OF RAW MEAT, NOT US!
AS THE LIONS DEVOUR THE MEAT...
WAIT, PETRONIUS! I'M A SLAVE, TOO! DON'T LEAVE ME BEHIND!
IT'S JULIA! I'LL BET THE SCHEMING CAT IS UP TO NO GOOD!
HURRY, GIRL! WE MUST REACH THE MOUNTAINS BEFORE CRASSUS' MEN PICK UP OUR TRAIL!
PRESENTLY, AS PETRONIUS' CHARIOT NEARS THE HILLS...
WHINNEEYyy!
CURSE OUR LUCK! ONE OF THE STEEDS HAS STUMBLED UPON A NEST OF DEADLY ASPS AND HAS BEEN FATALLY BITTEN! TAKE THE REINS WHILE I CUT HIM LOOSE!
SECONDS LATER...
DRIVE THE CHARIOT INTO YONDER CAVE! I'LL FOLLOW WITH THE DEAD HORSE! I CAN'T LEAVE HIM LYING HERE! HE'D BE A CLUE TO CRASSUS' GUARDS THAT MY SECRET HIDEOUT IS NEARBY!
GOSH, HOW STRONG HE IS! LIKE SUPERMAN, NO OTHER MAN CAN MATCH HIS FEATS!

SOON...
WHAT A CLEVER HIDEOUT, PETRONIUS! NO WONDER THE SLAVE-OWNERS CAN'T FIND YOU AFTER YOU LIBERATE THEIR SLAVES!
HMM... SHE'S FLATTERING PETRONIUS JUST AS LANA LANG USED TO ACT COQUETTISHLY WITH SUPERMAN! I DON'T MIND IF JULIA WINS CRASSUS' LOVE... BUT I'D HATE IT IF PETRONIUS PREFERRED HER TO ME!

AS PETRONIUS SHOWS OFF HIS HIDEOUT...
THESE ARE MEMENTOES FROM MY GLADITORIAL DAYS! MY NET... TRIDENT... HELMET... SWORD... METAL GLOVES...
HOW EXCITING, PETRONIUS!
NOW TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT I CAME FOR! TO WIN CRASSUS' GRATITUDE BY BETRAYING PETRONIUS!

ER... PETRONIUS! I KNOW WHERE CRASSUS HAS BURIED A FORTUNE IN GOLD AND JEWELS! WHY DON'T YOU DIG UP HIS WEALTH? THEN YOU NEEDN'T RISK YOUR LIFE TO FREE SLAVES ANY MORE! YOU COULD BUY THEIR FREEDOM!
THAT WOULD BE WONDERFUL, JULIA! TELL ME WHERE THE SPOT IS!

THAT NIGHT...
PETRONIUS LEFT TO DIG UP CRASSUS' TREASURE! BUT JULIA HAS ALSO DISAPPEARED! I DON'T TRUST THAT CAT! "DOUBLE-CROSS" IS HER MIDDLE NAME! I'D BETTER FIND PETRONIUS AND AT LEAST WARN HIM AGAINST HER!

MEANWHILE, AT CRASSUS' PALACE...
I LIED TO PETRONIUS ABOUT BURIED TREASURE SO THAT YOU COULD CAPTURE HIM, DEAR CRASSUS!
GOOD WORK, JULIA! I'LL SEND MY MEN TO AMBUSH HIM WHILE I RETIRE TO MY TEMPLE AND PRAY TO THE GODS FOR PETRONIUS' DOWNFALL!

LATER, NOT FAR FROM CRASSUS' ESTATE...
...GASP!!... I-I'M TOO LATE! CRASSUS' GUARDS ARE SURROUNDING PETRONIUS!
MEN! RACE FOR THE CHARIOTS, AND ESCAPE WHILE I HOLD THE SOLDIERS AT BAY!

SHORTLY...
ALL RIGHT, DOGS! YOU'VE GOT ME! BUT ALL MY MEN HAVE ESCAPED!
IT DOESN'T MATTER, PETRONIUS! THEY'RE UNIMPORTANT! BUT YOU'RE GOING STRAIGHT TO THE DUNGEON! CRASSUS GAVE ORDERS TO IMPRISON YOU THERE TILL HE DECIDES THE DATE OF YOUR EXECUTION!

THEY'VE CAPTURED PETRONIUS... BUT THEY WON'T KEEP HIM! I'VE GOT AN IDEA... A WILD RESCUE PLAN! BUT IN ORDER TO CARRY IT OUT, I MUST RETURN TO PETRONIUS' HIDEOUT AND GET THE METAL GLOVES HE USED IN GLADIATORIAL COMBAT!

HOURS AFTER, AS LOIS STEALS INTO CRASSUS' TEMPLE...
YOU!...} GASP!:... WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I UNDERSTAND PETRONIUS IS A PRISONER IN YOUR DUNGEON! WELL, INSIDE THIS JAR ARE DEADLY ASPS I GATHERED NEAR PETRONIUS' HIDEOUT, USING HIS METAL GLADIATORIAL GLOVES! UNLESS YOU FREE PETRONIUS AT ONCE, I'LL RELEASE THE ASPS!

SINCE PETRONIUS RISKED HIS LIFE TO FREE ME, THE LEAST I CAN DO IS TO RISK MINE TO SAVE HIM IN TURN! I'M WAITING FOR YOUR ANSWER, CRASSUS!
VERY WELL, MY DEAR! YOU SHALL HAVE IT!

Y-YOU'VE REMOVED YOUR BEARD!...} GASP!: ...YOU'RE PETRONIUS!
CORRECT! I ADOPTED THIS DISGUISE BECAUSE I NEEDED A SECRET IDENTITY TO CLOAK MY REAL MISSION IN LIFE... TO FIGHT INJUSTICE!

THEN, AS "CRASSUS" REMOVES A SCREEN...
I SPENT TIME ALONE IN THE TEMPLE IN ORDER TO COVER UP MY COMINGS AND GOINGS AS PETRONIUS! THIS TUNNEL LEADS TO THE MOUNTAINS... ALSO TO A SECRET TRAPDOOR IN THE DUNGEON! IN FACT, I JUST CAME FROM THE DUNGEON WHERE "CRASSUS" HAD GIVEN HIS MEN ORDERS TO IMPRISON PETRONIUS!

YOU SEE, I KNEW JULIA HAD PREPARED A TRAP FOR PETRONIUS, BUT SHE WOULD HAVE BECOME SUSPICIOUS IF I DIDN'T PRETEND TO FALL FOR IT! AS FOR THIS WAX STATUE, I ALWAYS PLACE IT BEFORE THE ALTAR IN CASE SOMEONE SHOULD LOOK INSIDE WHILE I'M AWAY RESCUING SLAVES!

NEXT, AS PETRONIUS ENTERS A SECRET CHAMBER...
AND THIS IS MY TROPHY ROOM...FULL OF MEMENTOES OF PAST ADVENTURES, AND ALSO DISGUISES I NEED TO OUT-WIT MY ENEMIES! MY GLADITORIAL EQUIPMENT I KEEP AT MY HIDEOUT!
YES! THAT'S WHERE I GOT THESE METAL GLOVES TO PICK UP THE ASPS!

OH, PETRONIUS, YOU REMIND ME SO MUCH OF SOMEONE I ONCE KNEW! A HERO CALLED SUPERMAN! HE, TOO, HAD A SECRET IDENTITY AND A TROPHY ROOM AND "DUMMY" FIGURES CALLED "ROBOTS" TO ASSIST HIM IN HIS ADVENTURES!
I HOPE YOU CAN FORGET THIS SUPERMAN PERSON AND LOVE ME! I NEED A COURAGEOUS GIRL LIKE YOU AS MY WIFE AND ASSISTANT! WILL YOU MARRY ME?

HMM... WHY NOT? PETRONIUS IS THE "SUPERMAN" OF ANCIENT ROME, A HANDSOME, POWERFUL HERO WHO HELPS MANKIND! IF I'M TO BE STUCK FOR-EVER IN THE PAST, I COULD DO WORSE!
ALL RIGHT, PETRONIUS! I'LL...
BY THE GODS! Y-YOU'RE DISAPPEARING!
BARROOM!

NEXT INSTANT...
"PROFESSOR"... LOOK! SHE'S BACK... AHEAD OF SCHEDULE!
GREAT KRYPTON! THERE'S LOIS! FOR TWO DAYS I'VE SEARCHED THE WORLD IN VAIN AND THEN...BOOM!... SHE APPEARS RIGHT IN THE SAME SPOT WHERE SHE HAD VANISHED!
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SHORTLY...
I DON'T GET IT, LOIS! HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE PAST?
I DON'T KNOW, AND I DON'T CARE! ALL I KNOW IS THAT THERE ARE OTHER "SUPERMEN" WHO APPRECIATE ME! COME ON, MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY! LET ME TESTIFY AND SEND THE CROOKS TO JAIL!
IDIOT! YOU AND YOUR TIME BOMBS! THE ONLY ONES WHO'LL DO "TIME" NOW ARE US!
THE END.

TIME-OUT for TALK!

I WANT TO GIVE ALL YOU BOYS A WARNING. ANY MORE FIGHTING AT SCHOOL AND I'LL HAVE TO SUSPEND YOU!... I KNOW, OF COURSE, THAT YOU CAN FIND ANOTHER PLACE TO FIGHT--BUT I HOPE, INSTEAD, YOU FIND ANOTHER WAY TO SETTLE THINGS.

THOSE GUYS HAVE BEEN ASKING FOR IT!
SURE--BUT YOU KNOW OUR BUNCH IS JUST AS BAD. WE'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT GETTING BACK AT THEM EVERY DAY!

DAD, ISN'T THERE ANY WAY KIDS CAN AVOID GETTING INTO FIGHTS ALL THE TIME?
WHY, YES, BERT... BUT YOU HAVE TO WORK AT IT! THAT'S WHAT COUNTRIES DO WHEN THEY TRY TO SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS PEACEFULLY INSTEAD OF GOING TO WAR!

NEXT DAY...
MIKE, WE'D LIKE TO MAKE A DATE WITH YOUR CROWD AND TALK THINGS OVER. MAYBE WE CAN IRON OUT OUR DIFFERENCES BEFORE SOMEBODY GETS HURT.
IT'S OKAY WITH ME--WE'LL TRY IT IF YOU WILL!

WINNING A PEACE IS HARDER THAN WINNING A FIGHT. EVERYONE MUST WORK AT IT!

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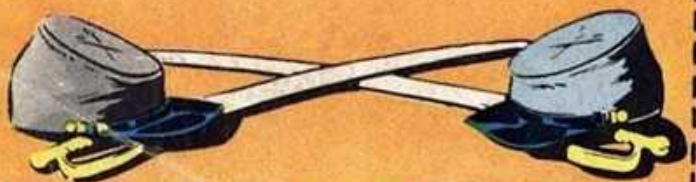

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